

MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENTS AND ORGANIZATIONS

ANIMAL CONTROL

After yet another challenging and rewarding year the number of calls I received within the fiscal year were about the same as years past. The number of feral cat complaints has dropped for a third year. If you have feral cats and don't want them around give me a call, I have a few have-a-heart traps to loan out. I received numerous complaints last fall and spring from residents who were seeing fox and skunks, neither of which I deal with. If you are having problems with rodents, I have a small have-a-heart trap to loan, or call an exterminator.

I receive numerous calls from people who have lost their pet and from people who have seen a pet running loose. If you have lost a pet I recommend that you contact me, any neighboring town ACO's and the Rutland County Humane Society. Only one out of ten pets found has some sort of ID tag. Article 3.3 of the Castleton Animal Control Ordinance states that all dogs over six months of age are required to wear a collar or harness with a current license tag attached. It is State Law that you must license your dog over six months of age by April 1 of each year.

For the 2012-2013 fiscal year 24 complaints were handed:

- 16 noise/harassment complaints
- 5 cruelty/neglect complaints
- 3 feral cat complaints

Other incidents report or handled:

- 11 dogs impounded for running at large and returned to owners
- 9 feral cats trapped
- 3 stray/abandoned dogs
- 2 dogs hit by vehicle

I also receive calls about sick or strange acting wild animals. If you have a problem with a wild animal stay away, do not approach or touch, call a local game warden or 1-800-4RABIES to report this problem.

If you have a domestic pet or animal problem or concern, I can be reached at:

Monday – Friday 468-3033
Evenings/Weekends 468-5293

Respectfully submitted,
Kevin Mulholland
Animal Control Officer

BOARD OF LISTER'S

The Board of Lister's made site visits to approximately one hundred twenty one (121) properties under permit, this past year. The permits were for new construction of houses, garages, sheds or barns, and remodels or additions to property.

Grievances were held on June 28, 2013. Twenty five (25) grievances were filed with the Town of Castleton and four (4) of those appealed the assessed value of their property to the Board of Civil Authority.

Our Common Level of Appraisal (CLA), set by the state, was 88.03 % (of fair market value). Our goal is to stay at a level higher than 80%, which is as low as we can go before the State requires a town-wide reappraisal. Our Coefficient of Dispersion (COD) was 18.05. Our goal is to keep this figure at or below 20% or the State will require us to undergo a town-wide reappraisal.

In April of 2013 the Board of Lister's mailed a Request for Proposal to six State approved Appraisal Firms seeking a bid for a town-wide reappraisal to be implemented by April 1, 2015. The Board of Lister's received bids from two appraisal companies who appeared before the Board of Selectmen on June 24, 2013. The Board of Selectmen voted to accept New England Municipal Consultants, Ltd. bid of \$167,000 to implement the town-wide reappraisal. New England Municipal Consultants performed our previous town-wide reappraisal and are familiar with the properties, areas, and program the Board of Lister's use for their data entry regarding each property. The bid of \$167,000 is fully funded by the State funds that are provided to the Town of Castleton each year in order to perform a reappraisal and keep our records up-to-date.

Castleton continues to have sales on the lake and off the lake that are higher and some lower than the assessed value the Town of Castleton has them valued for. Overall, sales were fewer and fewer permits were issued.

The Lister's have compiled notebooks for the years 2010 through 2013 that contain all Property Transfer Tax Returns with their corresponding Lister cards. If at any time you question the value of your property and feel that you are not being treated fairly and equitably with like properties and/or buildings, please feel free to visit our office and review the notebooks as they will assist you in determining whether you are being treated fairly and equitably.

Notice for Veterans: The state has changed the way Veteran Exemptions are applied. An application to Office of Veteran Affairs in Montpelier must be filed and they determine the exemption. We have the applications here in the office for anyone who would like it or it can be found on their Web site www.veterans.vermont.gov

Respectfully submitted,
Kim Miller
Matt Miller
Nancy Trudo

CASTLETON CEMETERY ASSOCIATION

The Castleton Cemetery Association again faced challenges with the revenue obtained from lot sales and burials dramatically impacted by the increasing use of the cremation methodology. The financial statement shows clearly that the Town grant last year of \$19,000.00 was less than 50% of the operating budget.

Despite these financial constraints, Hillside Cemetery remains a beautiful and well kept setting. All the Trustees thank Sexton Mike Eagan, Superintendent Reggie Beayon and his assistant, Ken Hill for their hard work and dedication.

A very special thank you to Joe Grey who retired after nearly 30 years on the Board of Trustees. He also served as our Lot Sales Director. His efforts and his insights will be missed.

So, too, for the years of service before her retirement given to the Board by Jean Britt, first as our secretary and then as a Trustee.

These two individuals dedicated hundreds of hours of their time to help make Hillside Cemetery what it is today.

Special thanks to our Secretary, Sara Grey and our Treasurer, Phyllis Blanchard for all their efforts.

Respectfully submitted,
John D. Burke(Pres) **Richard Hall, Jr.**
Rob Barker (1st Vice) **Aleda Dutton**
Patrick Eagan(2nd Vice) **Jean Britt**
Phyllis Blanchard (Treas) **Robert Casey**
Mike Eagan(Sexton) **Lois Ladd**
Si Loomis(Asst Sexton) **Joseph Grey**
Sara Grey (Sec'y/non-voting)

CASTLETON FIRST RESPONDERS

The Regional Ambulance/Castleton First Responders are comprised of volunteer Castleton residents,

Castleton State College students and members of the Castleton Police Department. We provide early treatment to stabilize patients for transport. Regional Ambulance Service provides advanced treatment and transport to Rutland Regional Medical Center.

During Fiscal Year 2012-2013 the Regional Ambulance/Castleton First Responders were called out 371 times. Our volunteer responders attempt to cover the community 24 hours a day 7 days a week as long as the volunteers are available. Regional Ambulance Service has an excellent response time to our emergency calls. Additional responders are always needed and welcome. If you have an interest in becoming a Regional Ambulance/Castleton First Responder and would like more information, you may call the Town Office at 802-468-5319.

This year we would ask all residents to please update their 911 address signs that have become faded or worn due to the inclement weather. This will help us to find your home when you have an emergency.

On behalf of our team I would like to thank the Castleton Police Department, Castleton Fire Department, Castleton Constables and Vermont State Police for their dependable and rapid response. Their help and presence at our calls is greatly appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,
Walter Ducharme
Field Chief

CASTLETON FREE LIBRARY

What was new in FY13? It felt like nearly everything, as we were in such a learning curve: helping patrons with new devices, maximizing our web presence with resources from our E-Vermont grant, preparing for the transition to a fiber optic network, working with a bevy of contractors to tackle both long-overdue maintenance projects and some capital improvements. The FiberConnect Project, a federally funded initiative bringing fiber to un-served areas throughout the state via a Sovernet network, was scheduled for completion by the FY's end, but delays pushed it to the end of 2013. By the time this goes to print we should have very fast public internet access through our wired desktops as well as wireless access points. For anyone needing help with internet/device use, our free Tech Tutor program continues into the current year.

We now have a beautifully designed and locally-built wooden staircase leading to our front entrance - not fully accessible, but a vast improvement in terms of safety, ease and aesthetics. This project was funded by the Hugh Cook Fund, named for the former Castleton resident who funded the concrete steps in 1961. To

further address safety, we added new outdoor lampposts using capital campaign money and a donation from the Friends. Our exterior trim was painted for the first time in over 30 years.

We were very excited to receive a Winnie Belle Learned grant to revamp our children's room with new exploration tables and play spaces, and to purchase resources for doing natural science. We also added manipulatives for exploring math concepts, thanks to our engagement with the Early Literacy Initiative. A life-sized stegosaurus sculpture has been living in our children's room since he was built by young patrons during a two-day intensive Dino-Immersion workshop led by a local artist, and the summer reading program was well attended. We had some amazing partnership programs, including Truck Day (with the CSO), chaired by Sue Day and attended by 700 people. For this we sincerely thank all the local organizations and business people who gave up a gorgeous Saturday to share their vehicles with the community. In all, 2,449 people attended the 106 programs for children this year, including weekly story hours, playgroups, and more. For adults, the Friends'-sponsored Science Pubs continued to draw large crowds, as did our VT Reads *Bull Run* program, with a total of 634 attendees at 22 programs for adults. In addition to attending programs, our 3200+ patrons continued to love books and other media - 29,000 items circulated this FY, a 13% increase over last year.

As always, we are deeply grateful for all of the devoted volunteers and community groups that contributed to the vitality of your library. We especially thank JoAnn Richardson, Sally Grace, Joan Eaton, Kathleen Foley, Denise Nangle, the Friends of CFL, and Castleton State College (for the donation of great work-study students).

Respectfully submitted,

Librarians:

Jan Jones
(director/children's serv)
Meg Fitch
(adult serv/tech watchdog)

Trustees:

John Klein(Chair)
Dick Diehl
Tom Kearns
(Treas)
Tina Rampone
Mary Waite
(Clerk)

CEMETERY OVERSEERS

The Cemetery Overseers continue to monitor and restore the historic cemeteries in town. This past year we cut brush in some of the cemeteries and reset several headstones in the Main Street cemetery. Unfortunately, the company we contracted with to do the stone repair work failed to do it so that money went

unspent and was returned to the taxpayers. For the current year we are contracting with a West Rutland company who assures us they will finish the repairs we contracted for by this spring.

We wish to thank those who volunteered to keep some of the smaller cemeteries mowed and brush free. Their efforts are greatly appreciated.

Once again, we are looking for volunteers (scouts?, service clubs?, or whoever) in the spring to help clear the Blissville Cemetery of all brush, roots and downed trees so boundaries can be properly marked and a new future fence. We will continue work on this and on headstone repairs as time and budget permits.

Respectfully,
Kenneth Flowers
Raymond Ladd
Jon Pintello

CONSTABLES' DEPARTMENT

As we close out another fiscal year, it has been a busy one again. 1st Constable Silas R. Loomis and 2nd Constable Scott Stevens have handled the following services and complaints. Motor vehicle complaints, motor vehicle incidents, vehicle collision, ATV's. skateboard and snowmobile complaints, motorboat complaints, VINS, lock-outs, trespass with motor vehicles, special traffic details for events, DLS complaints, unlawful dumping, suspicious persons and suspicious vehicle, excessive noise complaints, domestic complaints, citizen's disputes/assists, citizen complaints, unlawful mischief, attempt to locate, executed arrest warrants, agency assistance to other law enforcement agencies, railroad both local and AMTRAK, health and welfare checks to the elderly, and property checks when requested. We have assisted Castleton Fire Dept. and our EMS First Responders. We have also assisted other training agencies. We have been requested to do more patrols on our town highways and streets by our voters, citizens, taxpayers, Selectmen and our Town Manager.

This past year both your Constables have been supporting a new program called "Operation School Child Safety". This is when an officer is present on the Castleton/Hubbardton Union Elementary School campus during selective times. Our presence is needed when our younger students are outside of their building or during school functions. This is supported by the school board, the principal and the staff at the Castleton/Hubbardton Union Elementary School, plus the Selectmen and Town Manager of the Town of Castleton. This has been a good community policing program of our area and our children. This is a team

effort that is enhancing the quality of life for our children.

As Constables, we would like to address railroad safety in our town. We would like to remind the citizens of Castleton that this past year Vermont has had fatalities involving persons walking on the tracks. We would like to remind you that if you are walking on the tracks you are trespassing on railroad property. This is a crime that can result in your being arrested and cited into court. In our town we have seven (7) marked crossing by the railroad. Most of them are marked with lights and cross bucks. It is required by law that all vehicles approaching a marked crossing stop to look left and right before proceeding. We would also like to remind you that it takes a train over a mile to stop and a train has no steering ability. Being members of Operation Lifesaver we have the responsibility of educating you, the public. We encourage you to remember "Any Time is Train Time" and to "Look, Listen and Live".

First Constable Loomis is still working with the Vermont Police Cadet Program. This is sponsored by the Vermont American Legion and the Vermont Criminal Justice Training Council. It is a week long orientation introducing Jr.'s and Sr.'s in high school to law enforcement careers. This a very good program.

Both of your Constables have attended the mandatory law enforcement training for the year 2013. Both have met requirement certification. Both of us have also assisted with training at the Vermont Police Academy. Constable Loomis is very busy working with the Castleton Lions Club teaching the hunter safety course at Kehoe Education Center once a year. This is a good community policing project benefiting our citizens, especially our young people.

We, again, appreciate the support of many of our local and regional agencies. These include: The Castleton Board of Selectmen and Women; Town Manager Charles Jacien and all of the town office personnel who have assisted the Constables over this last year. This includes the town highway crew; the road foreman; our Castleton Fire Dept., Castleton First Responders; the Constables from Fair Haven, Poultney, Hubbardton, Wells, Pawlet, Benson, West Haven, Sudbury and Ira. Also to our chief and men and women of the Castleton Police Dept., Fair Haven Police.; Vermont State Police/Dispatches; Officers of Rutland Troop C; and the High Sheriff of Rutland County and Deputies.

We would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to Robert "Hawk" Kent of our road crew who has retired with over 25 years of service to the Town of Castleton. A job well done, Hawk! Also thanks to

Cpl. Ed Hunter, our outpost trooper and K-9 handler. Enjoy your retirement.

Your Constable's Department funding ran out again in April 2013. We have been level funded for the last five (5) years. We apologize for a funding increase however, it is necessary in order to provide you with ongoing service throughout the whole fiscal year. We don't like the financial burden either. We understand because we are taxpayers too.

Again we are grateful for you (the taxpayers) support of the Constable's Department and wish to serve you to the best of our abilities. We pledge to continue to always work toward our goals and objectives with emphasis on policing, public relations, community policing, public safety, rural policing, and traffic safety. We pledge to serve and protect our community. Most of all we thank you the voters and taxpayers of the Town of Castleton for all your support.

Respectfully submitted,
Silas R. Loomis, 1st Constable
Scott A. Stevens, 2nd Constable

FOREST FIRE WARDEN

This year the Fire Warden issued only 73 burn permits. This is a very small percentage of the number of permits that residents should have requested. It saves the fire department and the town a lot of time and money with a simple phone call.

Please remember that it is 'NOT OK' to have an open fire without a permit.

The permitting process is easy; you must call 265-3046 or 342-0167 and leave a message indicating:

- **Who you are**
- **What you will be burning**
- **When you would like to burn**
- **Where you will burn (the address) and your phone number at least 24 hours in advance.**

By doing the above you and the Town are better protected from the consequences of illegal burning. Remember only clean natural wood, brush & grass may be burned. **NO PAINTED WOOD.** The only return call you will receive is if there are questions.

I would like to thank everyone on the Castleton Volunteer Fire Department for their help with fire protection.

Respectfully submitted,
Heath Goyette
Fire Warden

GREEN UP COMMITTEE

Green Up Day Report 2013

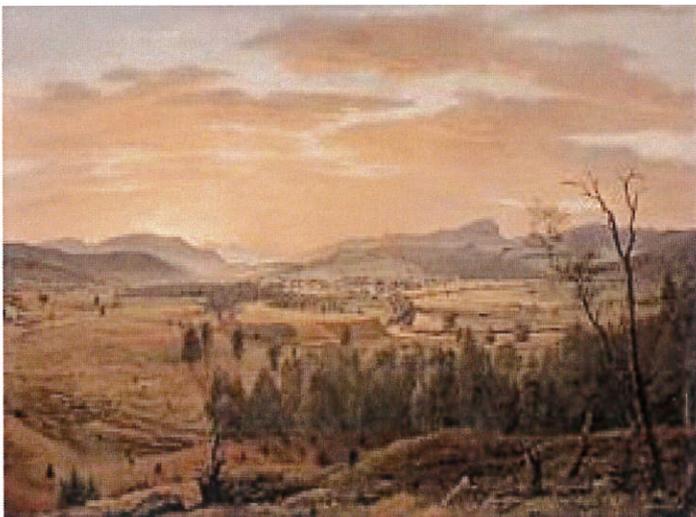
Green Up Day continues to be an important day for many in our community! I appreciated the help Greening Up near the on and off ramps at Exit 5, which have been an eye sore for the past few years. I also wanted to again thank Jim Doran, for coordinating west of Drake Road. It was nice to see a coordinated effort this year from Castleton State College as well this year.

It would be wonderful to see the community working to keep our town clear not only on Green Up Day but everyday of the year by keeping your personal area free of trash! We have a beautiful town and keeping it that way benefits us all.

Next year Green up Day is Saturday May 3rd. A reminder that Green Up Day does not need to be performed on the actual Green Up Day but can be done at your convenience as the bags arrive about a week before the actual day. Keep on the look out for Green Up Vermont to broaden their outreach and continue to look for ways to keep Vermont clean!

I would like to thank everyone who helps out and does their part to keep our town looking beautiful.

Respectfully submitted,
Julie Finnegan
Green Up Coordinator



HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Our Highway Department consists of five full-time employees and a few part-time folks throughout the year. The Highway Garage is located at 273 Staso Road. Normal operating hours are Monday through Friday 7:00 A.M. – 3:30 P.M. If you need service, call the Garage at (802) 468-2459 or the Town Office at (802) 468-5319.

This past year, our crew worked right along with the contractors on the paving projects and helped in the installation of the drainage systems in these areas. They did this while still concentrating on routine maintenance. This day-to-day work is the Highway Department's largest duty; this includes grading of dirt roads, ditching, brush cutting, potholes, dust control, road signage and culvert replacement, mowing and much more. Let's not forget winter maintenance, plowing, salting and sanding, keeping the roads safe to travel.

I would like to thank the highway crew, Joe, Heath, Bob, and Mike for their continued support and hard work especially during the winter months. I would also like to thank our Town Manager, Charles Jacien, who also wears the hat of Road Commissioner. He can be seen in a fedora in the winter months operating a plow truck during storms or other times of the year in a yellow vest working alongside myself. Charles and I have continued to maintain the building and grounds of the department. Continued improvements include a new wood furnace to heat the garage, lighting at the pole barn, repair of the garage doors, and next year the building is scheduled to be painted.

This will be the last year at the garage for Robert "Hawk" Kent, after 21 years of service to our town he is retiring. Jason Silva, also left us this year after 5 years of service. They are great coworkers and will be missed.

Respectfully submitted,
Paul Eagan
Road Foreman



PLANNING COMMISSION

The Castleton Planning Commission through the Town Plan and Zoning Ordinance develops a framework and guide for reaching community goals. It also attempts to balance the wide range of competing interests and demands found in the town to coordinate the pattern of development, the use of important natural resources and to address both current and long-term needs. The policies and programs stated within are used to preserve and protect the town's assets while providing a future vision for town officials, businesses and citizens.

It is important that the Planning Commission takes a look at the growth of the whole town and continue to focus on commercial development. This type of development can stimulate the local economy and enhance the tax base.

We are currently looking into some changes along Route 30 N from Route 4 to the Drake Road. Some of this area has access to water and municipal sewer and is considered to be an area for commercial development.

The Town has received a grant to do a comprehensive study on Economic Development for the Town. Hopefully the study will give the town some direction on which way to move forward.

The current members are Joseph Bruno, Jr., Sean Seguin, Frank Giannini, Jack Master and Jon Pintello. Meetings are on the second & fourth Tuesday at 7:00 PM at the Town Offices. The commission is always seeking additional members to serve the Town; letters of interest should be submitted to the Town Manager.

Respectfully submitted,
Joseph Bruno
Chairman

POLICE DEPARTMENT

To the citizens of Castleton, Vermont I respectfully submit my final annual report as your Chief of Police. After serious consideration I have decided to retire from law enforcement during the upcoming fiscal year. I want to take this opportunity to thank each of you for what has been a rewarding experience and tell you that I have immensely enjoyed serving this great community.

During the period from July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013 officers of the Castleton Police Department responded to 1,536 calls for service. These calls for service and subsequent investigations resulted in 124 arrests for Part I and II crimes.

During this past fiscal year the Castleton Police Department arrested 20 persons for Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol and issued 427 traffic tickets. We remain alert to keeping the streets and highways safe at all times.

Upon his retirement from full time service last September, Officer Stephen Dechen agreed to remain as a part-time Detective for this Department. Since assuming this role Detective Dechen has worked relentlessly to follow-up difficult and time consuming cases with a remarkable success rate in closing these cases and bringing the offenders to justice.

The Department is also fortunate to have had the opportunity to enhance our ranks with the addition of a narcotics certified K-9. Officer Jeffrey Warfle and K-9 Doc joined our ranks last October. Officer Warfle and K-9 Doc are certified through the Vermont Criminal Justice Training Council in narcotics detection. With the rise in drug related incidents in Rutland County and the State of Vermont I am sure that this addition will be an asset to our Department.

Also joining our Department during the past fiscal year is Officer Scott Alkinburgh. Officer Alkinburgh came to us with many years of experience in New York State. Officer Alkinburgh has completed his Vermont waiver training and has been granted full time certification in the State of Vermont. Officer Alkinburgh is a welcome addition to our Department and has already proven he is a great asset to our Department.

The Castleton Police Department continues to work in conjunction with the Castleton First Responders in delivering emergency medical care to the citizens of our community. During the fiscal year we responded to 175 calls for medical service. Often times the officers of your Police Department are first on the scene to deliver needed medical care while awaiting an ambulance from Regional Ambulance Service.

I would like to offer a thank you to the following people and agencies who continue to support the efforts of the Castleton Police Department: the Castleton Select Board, Town Manager, Charles Jacien, Castleton Town Office Staff, the Castleton Constables, Castleton First Responders, Castleton Fire Department, Castleton Highway Department, Vermont State Police, Fair Haven Police Department and the Public Safety Division at Castleton State College. Without the assistance of each of you would make our job a lot more difficult.

The officers serving your community during the year were: Officer Cheri McDermott, Officer Jeffrey Warfle and K-9 Doc, Officer Scott Alkinburgh, Detective

Stephen Dechen, Special Officers Justin Szarejko, Christopher Stephenson and our Administrative Secretary Pamela Coolidge-Sherwin.

In closing I would like to remind everyone that we are not always in the office so if you have an immediate emergency and can not reach us, please hang up and call "911".

Respectfully submitted,
Bruce Sherwin
Chief of Police

RECREATION COMMISSION

The Castleton Recreation Commission would like to thank the voters of Castleton for their continued support. Without your commitment, the programming offered by this Commission would not occur.

The Youth Sports programs offered this past year include baseball, softball, soccer and basketball. The baseball program involves children from kindergarten through high school and runs from April through June. Softball is offered for girls in grades three through eight. There are three teams at different age levels. Saturday morning basketball for children from 1st to 4th grade has become very popular for this age group.

The Commission would like to thank all of the coaches who made each program a success. Without the commitment of these volunteers, children would not have an opportunity to learn how to play the game and to learn the importance of teamwork.

Despite the wet start to this past summer many families still enjoyed our town beach. Crystal Beach provides relaxation for many people and many enjoyable hours of fun. There is a snack bar open daily, kayak rentals, plenty of grills and picnic areas and a covered pavilion in case of inclement weather. This jewel is an asset to the town and operated by dedicated staff. These committed employees work long hours to make the patron's visit pleasant and safe.

A huge thank you goes out to the town crew. During the past two years when improvements were being done and the playground being installed, this department worked tirelessly to ensure our goals were accomplished. These workers are highly skilled and do an excellent job! Thank You.

Swim lessons were offered in July again this year and, as usual, the number of participants increased. There were 83 children who registered for the lessons this season. A special thanks to our swim instructor, Gail McGann, for building and making this program a success.

Respectfully Submitted,
Martha Francis-Clifford
Commission Chair

TOWN CLERK

Citizens of the Town of Castleton:

Following is the report of the Town Clerk for the year ending June 30, 2013:

LAND RECORDS:

1866 pages of Land Records were received and recorded by this Office, July 1, 2012 – June 30, 2013. The cost of recording land records is \$10.00 per page, as set by State statute. Copies of Land Records may be purchased for \$1.00 per page.

VITAL RECORDS:

Certified copies of Castleton Town Vital Records (birth, marriage, death) are available at the Office of the Town Clerk at the cost of \$10.00 each. These copies are issued on Vermont State-issued engraved, forgery-proof paper.

VAULT RESEARCH:

The Vault in the Town Clerk's Office is open to the public, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday from 8:30AM – 12:30PM; 1:30PM – 5:00PM; Wednesday 8:30AM – 12:30PM; 1:30PM – 6:00PM; CLOSED on Fridays. A \$2.00 per hour fee is charged for use of the Vault and Town Records.

LIQUOR & TOBACCO LICENSES:

This Office issued the following Licenses for the 2013 licensing period:

- 9 First Class Liquor Licenses (7 with Outside Consumption Permits)
- 7 Second Class Liquor Licenses
- 7 Tobacco Licenses

DOG LICENSES;

438 dog licenses have been issued in the 2013 calendar year. New licenses will be issued beginning January 2, 2014. All dogs, 6-months or older, must be registered with the Town. The deadline for licensing dogs throughout Vermont is on or before April 1st of each year. After April 1, 2014, dogs still must be licensed, but there is a penalty fee in addition to the regular license fee.

DOG LICENSE FEES:

On or before April 1, 2014:

- Spayed or Neutered Dogs \$12.00
- Un-spayed or non-neutered Dogs 16.00

After April 1, 2014:

- Spayed or Neutered Dogs \$14.00
- Un-spayed or Non-neutered Dogs 20.00

To license a Dog in Vermont, you must provide the Town Clerk with a current Rabies Certificate and Proof of Spaying or Neutering, if appropriate.

The Town Clerk, together with the Rutland Veterinary Clinic at Castleton, will hold a Rabies Clinic on Sat. March 22, 2014, 10:00AM – 12:00 Noon at the Town Garage. Rabies vaccinations will be offered at a cost of \$7.00 each and licenses may be purchased or renewed at the same time.

VT SPAY NEUTER INCENTIVE PROGRAM (VSNIP):

The State of Vermont offers a program to enable income eligible caretakers of cats and dogs to receive financial assistance in spaying and neutering, as well as rabies and distemper vaccinations. Applications and information for VSNIP may be picked up at participating veterinary clinics.

MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATION RENEWALS:

The Town Clerk is now able to offer these services. In order to renew a motor vehicle registration, one must bring in the Renewal Form mailed by DMV for registrations that expire in the current month or 2 previous months (except for snowmobiles). A check or money order must be made out to VT DMV, and a separate \$3.00 fee will be due to the Town Clerk (cash OK).

HUNTING & FISHING LICENSES:

Beginning January 2014, Hunting & Fishing Licenses will no longer be offered for sale at the Castleton Town Clerk's Office. The Department of Fish & Wildlife has changed its procedures, and all hunting and fishing licenses will be processed and paid for ON-LINE.

For any citizen who is uncomfortable with the process or unable to apply ON-LINE for a hunting or fishing license, the Town Clerk can help you. You must provide a credit/debit card to pay for the license at the time of application. Please call the Clerk's office with any questions (802-468-2212).

ELECTIONS: IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT ELECTIONS & VOTING:

A person shall not vote in any election unless his or her name is on the checklist. Each individual who is qualified to vote has the responsibility of seeing that his or her name is on the checklist of his town of residence.

“(a) A person shall not gain or lose a residence solely by reason of...service of the state or of the United States; nor while engaged in the navigation of [the] waters...; nor while in a hospital, nursing home or other health care facility; nor while confined in a prison or correctional institution; nor while a member of a veterans' home; nor while a student...; nor while living outside the United States.

“(b) A person may have his or her name on the checklist **only** in the town of which the person is a resident...a person shall retain the ability to vote in a town of former residence for a period of 17 days after becoming a resident of a new town. A person may have only one residence at a given time.” 43 V.S.A. 2122.

If you are registered to vote in the Town of Castleton and have moved to a new address within the town, please call the office (468-2212x214) to give a change of address. If you have moved here from another town or state, you may stop by this office and register to vote. If you have a VT driver's license, you must provide it for verification of identity. The deadline to register to vote is 5:00PM on the Wednesday before the week of an election (6 days before election).

Absentee ballots are available 20 days before Town Meeting and 45 days before any State or Federal election. Ballots may be obtained by written request (forms available at Town Clerk's office) or by calling (voter or family member only) to enter such request. No absentee ballot requests may be taken after 5:00PM on the day before any election.

Respectfully submitted,
Katy Thornblade
Town Clerk

TOWN CLERK'S VITAL STATISTICS BIRTHS: JULY 1, 2012 – JUNE 30, 2013

Due to the laws regarding adoption and legitimization of children and the Town's liability exposure, Births will no longer be published in the Town Report. Vermont still has an "open records" law so anyone is welcome to view the Birth Records and receive copies at the Town Clerk's Office during business hours.

MARRIAGES (ALPHABETICAL BY APPLICANT A)

JULY 1, 2012 - JUNE 30, 2013

BAKER, MATTHEW ALLEN DAVIS; FORT ANN, NY	LESSELBAUM, MOLLY KATHLEEN; FORT ANN, NY	06.22.13	RUPERT
BURKE, JAMES EDWARD; CASTLETON	GILBERT, TERESA MARIE; CASTLETON	08.25.12	CASTLETON
CARVILL-ZIEMER, ELLEN WEISS; KENT, OH	CARVILL-ZIEMER, MELISSA JEAN; KENT, OH	10.16.12	RUTLAND
CHAMBERS, COREY SPENCER; FAIR HAVEN	HOLCOMB, KILENE LYNNE; WHITEHALL, NY	06.08.13	CASTLETON
COLLINS, SEAN MICHAEL; LAKE LUZERNE, NY	VISICARO, MARIANNE MARGARET; WHITEHALL, NY	03.03.13	CASTLETON
DONOVAN, GEORGE THOMAS; CASTLETON	BROWN, STEPHANIE KRISTIN; CASTLETON	05.25.13	CASTLETON
FLANDERS, RICHARD REGINALD; CASTLETON	GREGORY, LINDA MAE; CASTLETON	07.07.12	EAST POULTNEY
GARDINA, MICHAEL FRANCIS, JR; CASTLETON	KNAPP, FRANCES ROSE; CASTLETON	03.09.13	MANCHESTER
HALL, MICHAEL RICHARD; CASTLETON	BEEDE, TANYA ANN; CASTLETON	07.01.12	FAIR HAVEN
KUEHNS, SEAN MANNION; MONROE, NJ	LAUTREBACH, KATHLEEN ABIGAIL; RAHWAY, NJ	09.22.12	CASTLETON
LOCKWOOD, ROBERTA ANN; HOPKINS, SC	ADAMS, ARA NOUHA-ANASTASIA; HOPKINS, SC	05.09.13	CASTLETON
MEAD, RICKY ANDREW, JR; CASTLETON	SULLIVAN, KATHLEEN MARGUERITE; CASTLETON	03.02.13	FAIR HAVEN
MELNYCHUK, RYAN MARK; PITTSBURGH, PA	AMERY, LIZA ROSE; PITTSBURGH, PA	07.28.12	CASTLETON
MOORE, KYLE CLAYTON; CASTLETON	THIBODEAU, HEATHER LEE; CASTLETON	11.11.12	FAIR HAVEN
SAXE, JORDAN BUDA; NEW YORK, NY	HASSEBROEK, JAYME BETH; NEW YORK, NY	07.27.12	MANCHESTER
SHELDON, STEPHEN PRICE; CASTLETON	CAMERON, DEBORAH RIDER; RUTLAND	08.11.12	CASTLETON
SPRINGER, AVI JUSTIN; NEW YORK, NY	DECAROLIS, JESSICA ANN; BOMOSEEN	08.11.12	BRANDON
STOCKWELL, BENJAMIN RYAN; CASTLETON	HARRIS, AMANDA LEE; CASTLETON	10.06.12	PROCTOR
STROSNIDER, GREGORY WILLIAM; NAPERVILLE, IL	GANDOLFI, JESSICA CRYSTAL; NAPERVILLE, IL	03.16.13	CHITTENDEN
TRAVERSE, SCOTT ALAN; CASTLETON	GIPE, DESTINY MARIE; CASTLETON	08.25.12	CASTLETON
VAN NOORDT, ROBERT TODD; CASTLETON	COLTEY, DARCY ALENE; FAIR HAVEN	10.20.12	CASTLETON
WIEGERS, THOMAS ALAN; HALEDON, NJ	HOYT, BRENDA JEAN; HALEDON, NJ	06.22.13	BOMOSEEN
ZSIDO, JAMIE LEE; CASTLETON	BLACKMER, LAURA ELIZABETH; CASTLETON	07.13.12	MANCHESTER

DEATHS (ALPHABETICAL BY NAME)

JULY 1, 2012 - JUNE 30, 2013

NAME	SEX/AGE	DATE OF DEATH	PLACE OF DEATH	RESIDENCE
Beayon, Clarence Willard, Sr	M/83	01.09.13	RUTLAND	CASTLETON
Beayon, Della A	F/79	08.04.12	RUTLAND	CASTLETON
Brown, Janet H	F/87	05.27.13	CASTLETON	CASTLETON
Bruce, Merrill Anthony	M/89	04.14.13	CASTLETON	BOMOSEEN
Bruno, Ralph A	M/89	12.12.12	CASTLETON	CASTLETON
Brutkoski, Thomas Joseph	M/66	04.17.13	RUTLAND	CASTLETON
Burdo, Nekia Rence	F/19	04.24.13	BOMOSEEN	POULTNEY
Bushee, Victor E	M/80	10.28.12	RUTLAND	CASTLETON
Carleton, Kenneth James	M/58	01.31.13	CASTLETON	CASTLETON
Christie, Wilford B	M/69	12.03.12	BOMOSEEN	BOMOSEEN
Coryell, Vincent Hooper, Jr	M/87	04.06.13	CASTLETON	CASTLETON
Coutermarsh, Jean Arlene	F/82	06.05.13	CASTLETON	CASTLETON
Dimick, Todd Michael	M/53	12.24.12	RUTLAND	CASTLETON
Dumond, Mary A	F/83	01.03.13	BOMOSEEN	BOMOSEEN
Emery, Anne L	F/71	01.22.13	RUTLAND	BOMOSEEN
Fiske, Theresa Ida	F/81	10.27.12	RUTLAND	CASTLETON
Graham, Francis X	M/69	05.03.13	CASTLETON	CASTLETON
Gray, Winona Effie	F/74	07.07.12	HYDEVILLE	HYDEVILLE

Howes, Beatrice Alice	F/101	12.09.12	CASTLETON	HYDEVILLE
Hughes, Arthur Raymond	M/89	02.24.13	CASTLETON	CASTLETON
Kotuby, Mary Ann	F/92	03.01.13	RUTLAND	BOMOSEEN
Lanthier, Francis	M/82	09.01.12	CASTLETON	HYDEVILLE
Lumsden, Lennox E	M/86	04.17.13	CASTLETON	BOMOSEEN
Morris, Marjorie Joan	F/77	05.13.13	CASTLETON	CASTLETON
Norton, Faye Elaine	F/76	01.02.13	CASTLETON	CASTLETON
Oldford, Calvin P	M/85	04.18.13	RUTLAND	CASTLETON
Pelletier, Elsie	F/83	09.27.12	RUTLAND	CASTLETON
Perry, Hazel A	F/94	07.14.12	CASTLETON	CASTLETON
Pitts, Oscar R	M/86	01.04.13	CASTLETON	CASTLETON
Price, Edward William	M/69	10.28.12	RUTLAND	CASTLETON
Prunier, Barbara Jean	F/72	04.19.13	CASTLETON	CASTLETON
Rooney, Daniel L	M/79	12.24.12	CASTLETON	CASTLETON
Schickler, Peter A	M/68	12.23.12	CASTLETON	CASTLETON
Stickney, Julia Sophie	F/88	04.12.13	CASTLETON	HYDEVILLE
Taggart, Patricia J	F/83	10.20.12	RUTLAND	CASTLETON
Wade, Frederick Myron, Jr	M/80	08.30.12	HYDEVILLE	HAMPTON, NY

TRANSFER STATION

Another year has come and gone at the Transfer Station. The permits fees stayed the same along with all other fees. Our recycling is still doing well.

See you at the Transfer Station.

Respectfully submitted,
Joe Root
Transfer Station Operator

TREE WARDEN

In this fiscal year we had a lot of storms and lost quite a few trees. My hat goes off to the Highway Department for doing a great job keeping our roads cleared.

Castleton Fire District # 1 (water department) had a line laid between South Street and Sand Hill Road. I asked about the trees and connected them up with the Highway Department. The logs were used as firewood to heat the Town Garage.

As always I put the majority of my time into the pruning of trees along Main Street. I was asked to work on an apple tree along Cramton Road. It's my pleasure to work on our trees and keeping our town looking nice.

I had to take down the large Elm tree on Main Street. I watched it deteriorate and when it started falling apart I had it taken down. That was my single major expense.

I take care of the flower bed at the Park and Ride. I enjoy doing this job. I hope to see more flower beds in the future.

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Immel
Tree Warden

VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

This past year the Castleton Volunteer Fire Department responded to 148 calls. A number of the calls were during Hurricane Sandy when people were in need of help from the flooding. Also, we respond to all vehicle accidents and downed power lines due to storms.

We had a busy 'end of the year' with three structure fires in one week. A special 'Thanks' goes out to our neighboring fire departments for their continued support.

At present we have 26 members and 2 junior firefighters on our roster. As always we are still in need of additional help. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer firefighter, you may call me at 802-342-0167 or come to the Fire Station on Elm Street on any Wednesday at 7:00pm and we will answer your questions about joining. Just think - if not YOU then WHO.

The Castleton Firefighters Association is always looking for additional Volunteers. The association is a volunteer group that helps the Fire Department.

In closing, I would like to 'THANK' the firefighters, their families and the taxpayers for their support - it makes my job as Chief a pleasure to serve the town.

Respectfully submitted,
Heath Goyette
Fire Chief

WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY

The Town of Castleton Wastewater Treatment Facility continued to enjoy another year producing a quality effluent the Town can be proud of. The Sequencing Batch Reactor (SBR) system continues to prove itself to be an efficient and forgiving system for wastewater treatment. The Ultraviolet Disinfection System continues to achieve disinfection of the treated effluent without the use of chemicals.

Our proactive "refurbishment" program of the sixty-two grinder pump stations is now complete and we are continuing our efforts to upgrade several of our older, larger pump stations.

With the continued support and foresight of the Town Manager our ongoing effort to a proactive approach to maintenance and keeping spares on the shelf have significantly reduced down time and the potential for sewer service interruption. The replacement of obsolete equipment as well as panels and controls have made operations much more efficient.

The Town of Castleton Wastewater Treatment Facility is now expanding its proactive approach to the aging collection system piping that is now forty plus years old. Engineering for sectional line replacement is underway and will be performed a section at a time over several years to reduce impact on the budget.

In closing the staff at the Wastewater Treatment Facility extends an invitation to any interested parties to tour the facility. Please call (802) 468-5315 for an appointment so that we may accommodate your visit.

Respectfully Submitted,
Edward Tracey
Jeff Jordan

24 Hour Emergency Response Number
(802) 773-5549

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR
DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD

INTRODUCTIONS

Greetings from your latest Zoning Administrator

When calling the Town Office on a permit matter, please ask for "Jeff B". Self-employed for 30 +/- years as a consultant forester and Realtor/Broker, I've supervised over 100 subdivision projects and built two dozen homes. While relatively new as Castleton Zoning Administrator, I believe this background will benefit the Town and & property owners.

Generally, I have office hours on Tuesdays and Thursday afternoon, by appointment and as permit issues require. **Kindly call ahead at (802)468-5319 x 225 so I can schedule a meeting with you at the Town Office accordingly.**

PERMIT HISTORY

There were 67 permit requests received in Calendar Year 2013. Zoning administrators approved 63% of applications and the Development Review Board granted 22% of permits. Only 4% (3) of applications were denied, 3% were withdrawn and 8% still pending as of December 2013.

A SUMMARY OF 2013 APPROVED PERMITS INCLUDE:

- 26 New Accessory Structures (garages, sheds, decks, porches)
- 15 Additions or alterations to existing structures (including accessory living unit)
- 5 Miscellaneous Uses (pools, retaining walls, including one simple parceling)
- 3 New Single Family Residences
- 3 Removal of Existing & Rebuild of Residential Structures

- 2 Construction of Agricultural Structures

- 3 (one each) Municipal Use; College Use; Business Use

By Town Meeting 2014, I hope to report that the majority of outstanding (2013) DRB or Environmental Court Issues will be retired or near resolution.

"The right information, at the right time, is 9/10th of the battle." As Zoning Administrator, my primary function is to assist property owners with permissible improvements to their property. Please call to discuss any project contemplated, I am also assigned with the task of investigating any potential violations of town zoning; and certainly contact me if you observe any issues of concern.

Finally, plan any permit applications well in advance of your project schedule. A simple Zoning Administrators permit will typically be processed within 10 days. If your project is in a FEMA Flood Plain, or requires DRB approval, anticipate about a 75 day process time.

Following any final approval, Vermont Statutes requires a 15 day notice/appeal period prior to any local permit being effective. Castleton may also fine (at minimum) a \$200 fee for starting a project prior to issue date of any effective permit. **PLEASE PLAN ACCORDINGLY.**

Respectfully submitted,
Jeffrey M. Biasuzzi
Zoning Administrator



Stone Valley Byway Information Kiosk
At Crystal Beach